



TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 2, 2020
Via Zoom

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Voting Members Present:

Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson
Ms. Mandi Brink, Southeast Missouri Regional Port Authority (SEMO Port)
Mr. John Mehner, MAGNET
Mr. Scott Perry, Bootheel Regional Planning Commission (Bootheel RPC)
Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau
Ms. Kelley Watson, Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority (CTA)

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Non-Voting Members Present:

Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Chris Crocker, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Ms. Britni O'Connor, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

Staff Present:

Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Call to Order

In the absence of Chairman Christian, Vice-Chairman Ryan Shrimplin called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

Introductions

Each person in the meeting made an introduction, identifying themselves and their organization.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the December 2, 2020 Technical Planning Committee Meeting was unanimously approved upon motion made by Ms. Brink and seconded by Mr. Mehner.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 4, 2020 Technical Planning Committee Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Mehner and seconded by Ms. Brink.

Communications from the Vice-Chairman

Vice-Chairman Shrimplin stated that he will reserve his communications for Member Reports.

Public Comments

Vice-Chairman Shrimplin asked if there were any comments from the public regarding items not on the agenda. There were none.

New/Unfinished Business

- **Americans with Disabilities Act Pedestrian Transportation Infrastructure Condition Assessment** – Mr. McElroy noted that comments on the report are due today. Any comments will be incorporated by Lochmueller and the report will go to the Board in January.
- **Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update** – Mr. McElroy reported that the survey for the update just closed on November 30 with 143 responses. The plan is more in Lochmueller's court at this point. Sections 1,2,4,5 & 7 should be sent out for review mid-December. We are still on track to issue a draft version to ONE DOT in February.

Mr. Shrimplin asked if there had been feedback on his version of the mission statement. Mr. McElroy noted he did like Mr. Shrimplin's version. He felt it was accurate and true to SEMPO. Mr. Mehner and Mr. Killian both noted they liked Mr. Shrimplin's version.

Mr. Mehner requested to go on record in recognition of the value of the SEMPO Newsletter that the director has been sending out. He feels it provides significant information and is helpful.

- **MoDOT and IDOT Statewide Safety, System Condition, and System Performance Measure Targets** – Mr. McElroy noted that because we are a bi-state MPO we must establish performance targets for both MoDOT and IDOT to consider. Mr. McElroy noted that this year we are looking specifically at safety, system condition, system performance and transit safety.

He reviewed the standards adopted by MoDOT on October 1. These standards are due by the end of February.

Under Safety, there were 5 measures established. They provide a 5-year rolling average and updated target. Trying to improve in most areas.

Mr. McElroy noted that historically SEMPO has adopted the state's projections. As an MPO, SEMPO is entitled to change the targets but Mr. McElroy pointed out that MoDOT is more steeped in the data and better positioned to make projections. Mr. Mehner noted that he is comfortable with the projections but asked if someone from MoDOT knew why the non-motorized fatalities serious injuries numbers remained unchanged. Ms. O'Connor noted she would check with Karen Miller from MoDOT to see what the rationale was. Mr. McElroy noted the footnote for that section said the baseline was higher than projected so they opted to go with the baseline. Mr. Mehner said that was a sufficient explanation. Mr. McElroy said

he would consider the group to be supportive of the state's projection but will follow up on that rationale.

Under System Condition there are 6 targets outlined and categorized as in good or poor condition. The numbers likely reflect the fiscal reality of MoDOT's funding position. There is a reduction in the number of bridges that would be considered good for 2021. The number of poor bridges will increase slightly. Pavement conditions will hold the line for good and poor condition as well as national highway systems pavement conditions for good and poor. The group agreed they would be comfortable supporting MoDOT's targets for those measures.

Looking at System Performance, nationally there are 6 targets but only 3 apply to SEMPO. Those that apply are interstate travel time reliability, non-interstate travel time reliability, and freight reliability measure. These targets are reduced slightly from 2019. The group agreed to support these measures.

The Transit Safety measures are part of a recent plan that the CTA has adopted. Those targets are for fixed routes, van pool, demand response, and ADA complementary paratransit. The system reliability is based on one-year data. There was agreement to accept these measures.

Mr. McElroy then reviewed all the IDOT Targets provided by Mr. Caldwell. These measures were accepted by the committee.

Mr. Mehner made a motion to recommend to the Board support of the MoDOT and IDOT targets. Motion was seconded by Ms. Brink and passed unanimously by the committee.

- **Cape Girardeau Transit Authority Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan and Safety Performance Targets - Discussion**

Mr. McElroy noted that the CTA board approved the plan, and this is where their targets were identified. Ms. Watson noted they did a review of the previous 5 years' data. Each year, the plan is to be reviewed and sent to their Board for approval by August 31. In turn, the approved plan will be submitted to SEMPO and MoDOT.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Shrimplin reported on the TTF5 projects. He noted that Fountain Street was still being discussed with no report at this time. On the Independence Street project, the city continues to work through issues with the property owners and working to get the right of way transferred from MoDOT to the city. Post cards to affected property owners have been sent out on the Main Street project and the acquisition documents have been sent out for review. The city is hoping to start the acquisition process this month if the consultants can make the necessary revisions in time. The city had planned to route some additional storm water to Independence during the Sprigg Street project, however the data indicates there is not capacity for this so it will not be part of the project. Also, on Sprigg Street, the consultants have requested some core samples to analyze the pavement conditions. Mr. Shrimplin went on to note that the city is wrapping up acquisition on the West End project and intend to let the project in late winter with

construction in Spring.

City of Jackson – Mr. Bollinger noted there might be minimal traffic impact with an electric project on South Farmington Road to extend lines from the Coke Plant down Hwy PP for some undeveloped industrial lots and a spec building. They anticipate start mid-month. He also noted that the next phase of the water system facility plan will kick off soon. He said they are waiting on the closure and detour plan from the contractor and then it will move forward. Also, the consulting engineers are working on the designs of the 2 low water bridges in the park. Hubble Ford will be replaced in 2021 and the West Mary Street bridge in 2022. Plans include sidewalk connections in all directions to improve multi modal access into the park. Lastly, Mr. Bollinger reported that the annual asphalt and concrete pavement program is complete.

CTA – Ms. Watson reported that ridership is still 70 to 80 percent and operating at 100 % of availability of hours. The bus hours have been reduced but demand response is still available 24 hours a day. The city bus is not charging a fare currently to limit contact.

SEMO Port – Ms. Brink reported they are in review/approval process for getting bid documents approved for material purchase contractor for their EDA grant. She said they hope to open bids next month. Ms. Brink said they have 3 parts of the total project under contract on the BUILD project. She noted they must be under construction by the 1st of March according to grant guidelines. On the material handling portion, the board / committee has ranked the submissions and are in negotiations with the top scoring firm. They hope to approve a contract at their board meeting in 2 weeks.

Bootheel RPC – Mr. Perry reported they are still doing remodeling and working on grants.

MAGNET – Mr. Mehner reported that there will be a press conference on Friday with the University, City officials and a company to announce that the University has entered into a partnership with the City to provide a flight training degree and program at the airport. This will have a big impact on economic development in the region and for the University.

MoDOT – Mr. Brandon noted that he has 2 questions on the SEMPO's needs list. Rte 61 from Rt. W to S Expressway is in scoping but he wanted to make sure it is addressing the needs. The project was brought to MoDOT by maintenance, so they wanted to make sure SEMPO's interest was the same. Also, looking at the TTF project at 61 and Independence to make sure MoDOT understands their role. Mr. Shrimplin noted that there will be a transfer of some of the right of way, but the functional area of the intersection will still be MoDOT's. Mr. Shrimplin will check to see what the city needs from MoDOT on these.

Mr. Brandon noted that MoDOT is preparing for winter and looking at how and closures might affect their ability to plow and address winter weather issues.

Mr. Crocker reminded the group they have put out a call for TAP projects with a due date of January 29, 2021 for submission.

Mr. Bollinger noted that the City of Jackson is interested in a TAP application. They are currently working through the idea and scope and will take to officials next month. He wanted to give a heads up that they may ask for support from SEMPO. The project addresses part of the 2 low water bridge replacements and the ADA plan. He noted that when they replace the bridges and put in sidewalks, the connections are not good. They are looking at the area

between Park and Hwy 61. A motion made by Mr. Mehner, seconded by Mr. Perry, to recommend support of the City of Jackson's TAP application was unanimously approved.

Ms. O'Connor reminded the group they are in the process of planning their statewide planning partner meeting for February 10. Because it will be virtual, there is an opportunity for more people to participate if interested. She suggested Mr. McElroy share additional information as it comes out.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy noted that the last project in the UPWP for the year is to update the website. He noted he has interviewed 4 firms and received 3 written proposals. He said he checked with FHWA for procurement guidelines and is adhering to city requirements. The project is between \$10 to \$15,000 so 3 bids are required. Mr. McElroy said he is ready to move forward with his selection of Rooted Web. He also interviewed Element 74, Painted Pixel Design, and Netwide Webs. He felt Rooted Web had great ideas on how to draw people to more pertinent information. He noted that, unless any of the committee had issues with this, his plan was to apprise the Board and then move forward with the update.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment Motion

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:48 a.m. upon motion made by Mr. Mehner and seconded by Mr. Perry.

Respectfully submitted,
Marla Mills